<u>THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

Applicants:

Rengarajan et al.

Examiner: Tran, T.

Serial No:

09/000,626

Group: Art Unit 2811

Filed:

December 30, 1997

Docket: 8055-42 (SME310US)

For:

RECESSED SHALLOW TRENCH ISOLATION STRUCTURE

NITRIDE LINER AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

To:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313.1450

Mail Stop AF

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RESPONSE

This is a response to the Final Office Action of April 1, 2004, which was issued in response to Applicants' previous Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.196(b)(1), which was filed on October 30, 2003 in response to a Decision on Appeal, mailed on August 26, 2003, from the Examiner's final rejection of claims 1-5, 7 and 24-25.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (and any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage paid in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 2, 2004.